

September 3, 1999

FDA Commissioner Jane E. Henney
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857

5336 '99 SEP 23 P2:01

Dear Ms Henney:

I am a family physician caring for medically indigent folks in a community health center in Lafayette, Colorado. Poor nutritional habits are rampant and obesity and bad teeth are the norm. However, I have found that my patients can be empowered to use the Nutrition Facts label to select more healthful food.

As a member of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), I am aware of the changes in the American diet over the last 30 years. I strongly urge you and the FDA to establish a "Daily Reference Value" for added sugar of 40 grams. I believe this number was based on data from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (see Michael Jacobson's editorial in the September 1999 Nutrition Action Health Letter). Requiring manufacturers to list on the label how much sugar they add to a product will help me and my patients pursue a more healthful diet.

Many thanks for your kind consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



Chris Keenan, M.D., M.P.H.

Physician, Clinica Campesina Family Health Services
Assistant Professor, Department of Family Medicine, University of Colorado

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